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Addressing human vulnerability to climate change: Toward a 'no-regrets' approach

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Abstract:

This paper presents and applies a conceptual framework to address human vulnerability to climate change. Drawing upon social risk management and asset-based approaches, the conceptual framework provides a unifying lens to examine links between risks, adaptation, and vulnerability. The result is an integrated approach to increase the capacity of society to manage climate risks with a view to reduce the vulnerability of households and maintain or increase the opportunities for sustainable development. We identify 'no-regrets' adaptation interventions, meaning actions that generate net social benefits under all future scenarios of climate change and impacts. We also make the case for greater support for community-based adaptation and social protection and propose a research agenda.

Source: Ask your librarian to help locate this item.

Resource Description

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Human Conflict/Displacement, Precipitation, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones, Landslides

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity, Fisheries, Food Access/Distribution, Livestock

Productivity, Nutritional Quality

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: M

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

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Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation): ■

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

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Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Developmental Effect, Infectious Disease

Developmental Effect: Cognitive/Neurological, Reproductive, Other Functional Deficit

Infectious Disease: Vectorborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne

Intervention: M

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: M

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status, Workers

Resource Type: **™**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Research Article

Resilience: M

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

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Timescale: M

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: M

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

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